

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 187827

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SL, US

SUBJECT: VP KOROMA'S CALL ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE

1. VICE PRESIDENT S. I. KOROMA PAID A BRIEF COURTESY CALL ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFLE JULY 26 BETWEEN MEETINGS WITH THE IBRD. KOROMA STATED HE HAD ASKED FOR APPOINTMENT TO REEMPHASIZE TO USG THAT WHILE RELATIONS BETWEEN SIERRA LEONE AND THE US MAY HAVE BEEN QTE. BAD UNQTE., THEY HAVE IMPROVED TREMENDOUSLY. HE GAVE PARTICULAR CREDIT FOR THIS IMPROVEMENT TO AMBASSADOR SAMUELS. WHILE ASSERTING COUNTRY'S INDEPENDENCE FROM ANY IDEOLOGY, HE STATED THAT US-SIERRA LEONE RELATIONS MUST BE STRENGTHENED AND CONGRATULATED THE U.S. ON WHAT IT WAS DOING ON THE WORLD SCENE. HE DID NOT REFER TO ANY SPECIFIC ISSUES.

2. KOROMA NOTED THIS WAS HIS FIRST VISIT TO THE U.S. BUT STATED THERE WOULD BE FURTHER VISITS TO FOLLOW UP ON WORLD BANK MATTERS. AT PRELIMINARY MEETINGS HE DESCRIBED THE BANK AS SYMPATHETIC AND INDICATED HE WAS INITIALLY ENCOURAGED. FURTHER MEETINGS WITH BANK PRESIDENT CHAU-
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FOURNIER WERE SCHEDULED. THE SIERRA LEONEANS INFORMED

DEPARTMENT THEY WERE WITHDRAWING THEIR REQUEST FOR AP-
POINTMENTS FOR KOROMA WITH VP ROCKEFELLER AND SECRETARY
KISSINGER BECAUSE THE VICE PRESIDENT PLANNED TO DEPART

WASHINGTON ON JULY 28, SOONER THAN SCHEDULED, PRESUMABLY
TO RETURN TO FREETOWN.

3. MEMCON WILL FOLLOW. KISSINGER

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NNN

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